

ASEC MONTHLY

Newsletter of the Alberta Students' Executive Council



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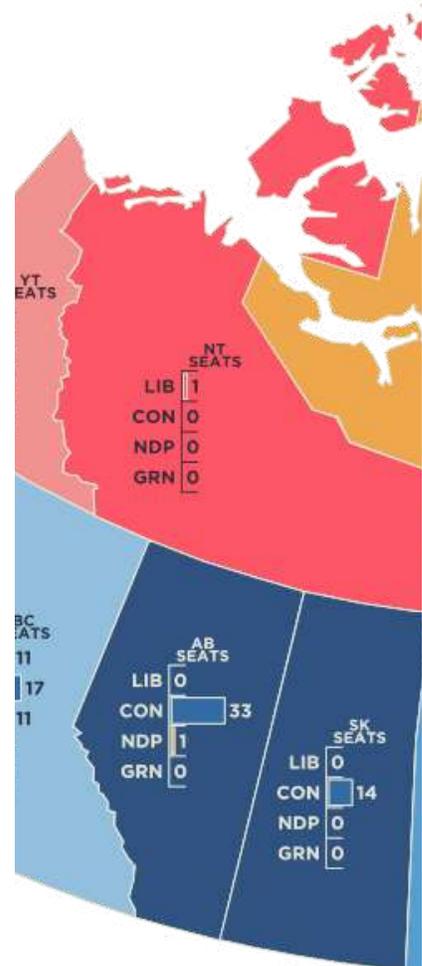
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CANADA'S FEDERAL ELECTION

by Emmanuel Barker

October 21st, 2019 was election day in Canada. For the Liberal Party of Canada, the reaction was mixed. With 157 seats, just 13 shy of the 170 they need to maintain the status quo, the Liberals formed a minority government. While Canadians decided that the Trudeau Liberals would continue to govern, the Conservative Party was close behind at 121 seats. The Bloc Quebecois came next with an unprecedented 32 seats. Far from last, the New Democratic Party comes away with 24 seats and the Green party finished the night with 3 seats. However, it was the People's Party of Canada that came away the most disappointed, having not gained a single seat. The final surprise in a very eventful election came from the country's only successful independent candidate, Jody Wilson Raybould. By securing a seat in the national parliament, Wilson Raybould will be Canada's only unaffiliated MP.



THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

by Jonathan Bilodeau

As the budget process unfolds, we have a break down of the most relevant budget items to the students of Alberta.

The Good

Increased incentives for trades enrollment and a new institutional funding model which promises transparency and accountability.

The Bad

Student aid interest is raised by 1%, infrastructure investments have been reduced, The STEP program was cancelled, and Campus Alberta Grants will be declining.

The Ugly

Tuition will be increasing by 7% per year for three years, and the Tuition and Education tax credit has been canceled.



“Any sort of increase to costs to get into post-secondary institution ... is going to be detrimental to students.”

- Dalton Ehry, President SAMHC

FORGING AHEAD, WHAT NOW?

by Jonathan Bilodeau

Many student groups across Alberta are all asking the same question, "What now?" Many of the changes released in the budget were expected, however, this does not make the pill easier to swallow. Looking forward, we must keep our eyes on the prize by carrying on with our mission - to advocate on behalf of post-secondary students in Alberta.

We have already met with the Minister directly the day after budget, and will be participating in an Advanced Education stakeholder's meeting on Nov 4. ASEC home office firmly believes that now is not the time to panic, but to push.

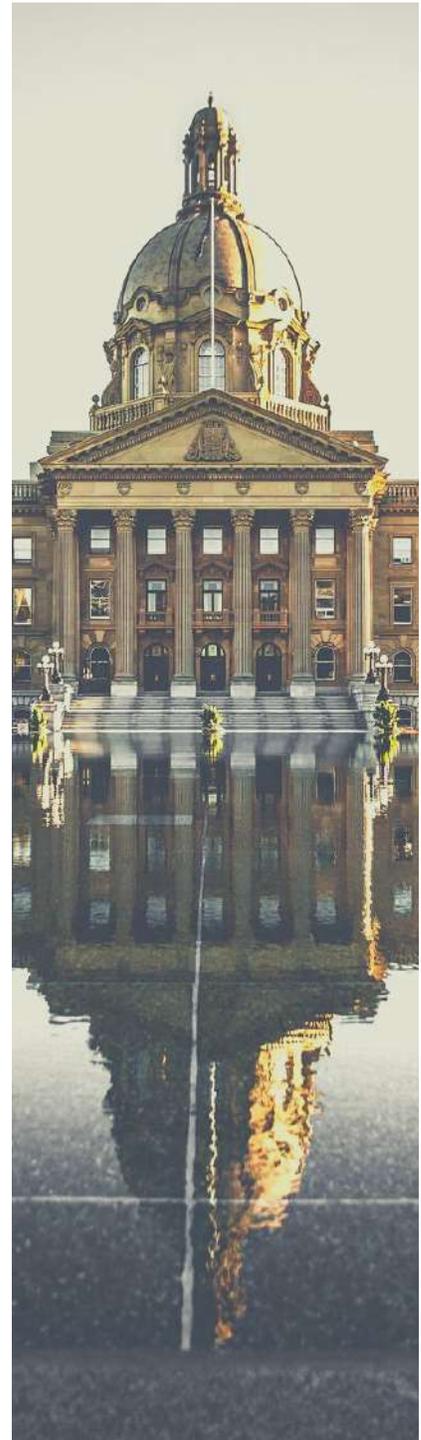
Home office will have a full suite of policy recommendations for membership's consideration moving forward. These policies will leverage the changes seen in the budget to push forward student's priorities.

LEADER OF THE MONTH

by Jonathan Bilodeau

ASEC's leader of the month for October is SARDC's President, Brittany Lausen. Brittany is currently involved in RDC's transition from college to university, keeping student's rights top of mind for administration and the Government.

Brittany recently gave an interview to news media and represented the student movement perfectly. Check out her article at chatnewstoday.ca.



“Students have always wanted just a predictable rate at which tuition will increase”

- Brittany Lausen, President SARDC